



Tom Niehaus

President
Ohio Senate
14th District

Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614/466-8082
Fax: 614/466-2776
Toll-Free: 800/282-0253
SD14@senate.state.oh.us

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

July 14, 2011

RE: *In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations* (WT Docket No. 11-65).

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As we work to get Ohio back on track and explore ways to retain and create jobs to stimulate our economy, it is apparent that AT&T's proposed merger with T-Mobile could be a win for consumers and workers by creating new opportunities in every corner of our state.

Investment in mobile broadband is a key driver for economic growth and innovation. Should this merger gain your approval, more than 300 million people will be covered by AT&T's high-speed LTE wireless broadband network. As consumers and small businesses are given access to the fastest broadband available they will be introduced to a world of new opportunities. Some of these benefits include:

- The merger will extend the next generation of wireless broadband, 4G LTE, to over 97% of the U.S. population. This will enable many rural areas, especially throughout Ohio, to access the same kind of services, applications, and benefits that consumers in large metropolitan areas receive.
- Access to new and faster speeds and more capacity attracts innovation, jobs and investment to Ohio. It makes us more competitive throughout the country and internationally.
- The transaction will result in more than \$8 billion additional incremental infrastructure spending by AT&T over seven years, a commitment that will enable industries to innovate and grow, right here in Ohio and elsewhere throughout the United States.

As President of the Ohio Senate I believe that the proposed AT&T/T-Mobile merger will make Ohio stronger and more attractive from an economic standpoint, and I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Niehaus".

CC: Commissioner Michael Copps - Commissioner Robert McDowell - Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Serving: Adams, Brown, Clermont, Lawrence (part) and Scioto Counties